EUROPE.

Arrival of the Java with Two Days Later News.

THE CHOLERA IN ENGLAND.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST IT.

THE ENGLISH BUDGET FOR 1866.

Progress of the German Question.

THE SITUATION STILL CRITICAL.

Active Military Preparations Going Porward.

STRONG WAR FEELING IN ITALY.

Negotiations for a European Congress.

OFFICIAL EXPLANATIONS OF FRENCH POLICY.

Italy Promises Not to Attack Austria.

OUR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Liverpool at 11 e'clock on the morning of the 5th, and Queenstown on the afternoon of the 6th of May, arrived

The Belgian arrived at Londonderry on the 4th s. m., and reached Liverpool early on the 5th inst.

A large ship-rigged steamer, supposed to be the City of Washington, passed the Fastnet under a heavy press of canvas and steering well with an apparently temporary

Several German families had been attacked, and two or three deaths had occurred.

Precautionary measures were being adopted, and it is said the Government had issued instructions to stop the further admission of German emigrants into England until they had passed a full medical examination. Very few of these emigrants remained in England, and telegrams had been sent to the Continent, requesting that no more emigrants should be sent to Liverpool for some time.

The Health Committee were taking vigorous measures for a complete supervision of the German lodging-houses in Liverpool, which appear to have been greatly overgrowded. The Mayor of Liverpool has been in communication with the Home Office upon the subject of the precautionary measures adopted by the local authorities. The Health Committee were busy with arrangements for securing the complete cleansing of all lodging-houses and places likely to be the haunt of plague. All the shipping offices in Liverpool were refusing steerage passengers from Germany. Two fatal cases of cholera were reported as having occurred in a hotel in Paradise-st., which is the resort of German emigrants.

German emigrants.

The following Order in Council was published in the official Landon Guzette:

Whereas a certain vessel named the Helvetia, having a certain infections disease on board, that is to say, the Ashette cholers, has arrived, or is expected to arrives, at Liverpool; and whereas it is expedient to cut off all communication between persons on board that vessel infected with that disease and the rest of Her Majesty's subjects. Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them, the Lords of the Conneil do order, and it is hereby ordered: 1. That in case of such vessel arriving at Liverpool, having such disease on board, no person shall land from such ressel for the space of three clear days after her arrival at Liverpool, without the permission of the Mayor of Liverpool. 2. The Mayor of Liverpool shall forthwith cause all persons on board the said vessel to be examined by a physician or surgeon, and shall person at lanch persons to land immediately who shall be certified by such physician or surgeon to be affected with symptoms of such disease shall be removed, if their condition admits of it, to some hospital or place until some physician or surgeon shall have certified that such persons is free from the said disease.

All persons offending against this order shall be liable to such pisses of the various towns and ports of England, several meetings of the Santhary Committee of the Southington Corporation have been held with a view of adopting any necessary steps to give effect to the Government letter. In their deliberations the Committee have had the advantage of the advice of Dr. Parkes, professor of hygiene at Keley Hospital: Dr. Wiblin, the superintendent of examine at this port, and Dr. M'Cormack, the newly appointed officer of health.

It is satisfactory to add that every precaution has been taken in the town itself for the prevention of sickness. All the courts and alleys are limewashed, lodging-houses deansed or closed, gullies and drains trapped and decodorized, all the nuisances r

risitation at the close of the year have been renoved, with a few exceptions still in progress, and a permanent staff of one medical officer charged with the health of the town, one principal inspector of nuisances, and four assistant inspectors, who devote their , whole time to sanitary measures, are actively engaged in the important duties, in addition to the services of Dr. Wiblin, the Government Saperintendent of Quarantine at this port.

WE GLADSTONE'S PINANCIAL STATEMENT-NATIONAL DEBTS IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN EUROPE.

bebts in the United States and in Europe.

In the House of Commons on the 3d inst. Mr. Gladstone hale his annual financial statement. He showed that the stan expenditure of the year had been £65,914,000, while is revenue had been £67,812,000. He had calculated on those in the revenue last year of £4,028,000, by the relation of taxes, &c., but the actual loss was only £2,-26,000. For the ensuing year he estimated the expenditure at £66,225,000, and the revenue at £67,375,000, leaving a probable surplus of £1,350,000. He proposed to abolish the duty on timber and pepper; to equalize the duties on wine in bottles and in wood, to reduce the tax abolish the duty on timber and pepper; to equalize the duties on wine in bottles and in wood, to reduce the tax on stage carriages, &c., and to appropriate about £500,000 for the conversion of a portion of the public debt into teminable annuities. These measures would dispose of

for the conversion of a portion of the public debt into terminable annuities. These measures would dispose of about £1.04,000 of the surplus.

Mr. Gladstone deprecated the propensity of governments to accumulate debts, and argued that the measure of conversion which he recommended would, by 1885, reduce the Eaglish debt by about £50,000,000. Mr. Gladstone then wierred, as follows, to the national debt of the United States and the large countries of Europe:

The chapter of mailtain debts is assuming. I think, a painful sit a baleful prominence as a social and political fact of modula appriance. [Hear, I I do not know whether the House asme to what extent this mischevous and injurious process going on, but I will refer first to what I do not besitate to believe to entemplate with the least anniety, and that is the lath of the United States. The debt of the United States is in lack! something wonderful—wonderful as the creation of larg years, strictly of four years, and no more, and he amounting to marrly \$3.000,000,000, or £600,000,000, and he rate of growth of the debt in the last year exceeded, think, £500,000,000. That is a wonderful debt, and is charge is enormous. It is not possible in the present ate of the flaancial arrangements of that country to steer sin with precision, but I believe I am not wrong in asyluate the charge of that debt is considerably heavier than its best, I do not think the effective amount of taxation in the property of the country to the intensity of the substrain in the property of the country to the intensity of the substrain and the property of the substrain in the property of the property of the substrain and the property of the substrain is the substrain that the charge of that debt is considerably heavier than it been, I do not think the effective amount of taxation in the property of the substrain and the substrain and the substrain of the substrain and the substrain and

passing generation to posterity in reference to the National debt, was first insisted upon by a Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Pall Mall Gazette says: "We understand that Mr. Russell Gurney, Q. C., and Mr. Maule have brought with them the report of the Jamaica Commission, which was unanimously agreed upon between themselves and Sir H. Storks, and will be laid before Parliament with all possible dispatch. The blue-book will be one of the largest ever seen, being swelled out by a mass of official papers, as well as by the voluminous notes of evidence. It would be premature to speculate on the tenor of the report, but it can hardly be doubted that Gov. Eyre will be recalled by the next mail."

The correspondent of The Times in Jamaica observes of the Commissioners' report that it is unanimous, "and will have, therefore, all the weight which must attach to it as setting forth the concurrent opinions of a soldier of high position, and great administrative experience, and of two able lawvers, both helding important judicial offices in England." The report and notes of evidence will not eccupy less than 2,000 pages of the usual blue-book size.

"The GREAT BASTERN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED. The report of the directors, to be submitted to the proprietors at an extraordinary general meeting of the company, to be held in London on the 7th instant, states that, after full deliberation on the part of the directors, an arrangement had been made whereby the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company are to have the ship for laying a second Atlantic cable, paying for the same (in addition to all the expenses) £12,000 in cash, in any event, by installments extending over the period of the charter. On the new cable of 1806 being successfully laid, the charterers are to transfer to this company £25,000 in shares of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, Limited, fully paid up: and, in the event of the charter. On the new cable of 1806 being successfully laid, with the proviso that the minimum payment to this company shall successfully laid, with the proviso that the minimum payment to this company shall be not less than at the rate of £29,000 per annum. The directors have no doubt that the proprietors will concar with them in considering the above arrangement very satisfactory, and they venture to express their confident belief that the expedition of this year will be a complete success. The ship will go to sea fitted with every appliance, which the experience acquired on the last occasion has shown to be necessary for summonating any difficulties which may present themselves during the operation. In pursuance of the terms of the charter, three installments of £1,000 each have been received from the charterers. These payments become due monthly; so that early in daily a sum of £6,000, from this source will be in hand and available for dividend. The Directors, therefore, propose to pay an interim dividend of six per cent ifree of income tax) as early in that month as may be found practicable. The statement of accounts to the 31st December last, duly andited is annexed. As anticipated in the last report, a further and final dividend has been received from the trustees in respect of the bonds of the Great Ship Company held by this Company, which amount has been applied in reduction of the cost of the ship.

Mr. Watkin called attention to the termination of the Reciprocity treaty and to the course pursued by the Government in reference to it. He moved a resolution expressing regret that timely negotiation had failed to procure the revival of the Treaty and that the House could be with which such that the such tha would look with satisfaction upon any measure which may tend to perpetuate friendly relations between the United States and Her Majesty's possessions in North

America.

Before Mr. Watkin concluded his speech the House

was counted out, there not being a quorum present.

Another attempt to assassinate a Dublin Police Officer had taken place. It was not successful, although the man was not out of danger. Two men were arrested for the

Austria, Prassin, and Italy.

The position of affairs still continued critical, and active

The position of affairs still continued critical, and active warlike movements are reported.

Austria is said to have sent a telegraphic reply to the last Prussian dispatch, declaring that she could not disarm to the extent desired by Prussia.

The official Berlin Staats Ausziger of the 3d says:

"Concurrent intelligence from various quarters has been received, which admit no longer any doubt of the fact that the mobilization of the Austrian forces which has been effected by degrees will shortly be complete."

A Berlin telegram of the 3d says:

"Official reports from the general in command of the Sixth Prussian Army Corps announce that means for the transport of a large number of troops are daily arriving in Pragae. Should the announcement be affirmed, it would result that the transport of troops with the view of concentrating an Austrian army apon our own frontiers has already commenced. The romors that the Prussian army has been mobilized are premature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that an increase of the Prussian armature, but it is believed that the so-called measures of defense against Italy upon proof that the Italian Government is not preparing for war. In order to discuss the important masters which will shortly require consideration, both Austria and Prussia must be disarmed.

A Berlin telegram of the 4th says:

"Prussia is making great preparations in the Sixte formation the Sixth Corps, stationed in Silesia, on a war footing. It is rumored that at the Conned of M

German princely families, whose existence he would be forced to defend should it be threatened.

"Lord Bioomield is said to have declared to Count Mensdorff that should Austria renew any peaceful offer to Prussia it would be energetically supported by England at the Prussian Country.

Government releases the Bank from the obligation of paying its notes in specie on presentation.

Popular demonstrations in favor of the national armaments continue to be reported from various places in Italy.

At Naples, the National Guard had expressed their wish
to relieve the troops that were garrisoning the town.

A Florence dispatch of the 4th says:

"It is confirmed that Austria had declared her readiness to

replace her army in Venetia upon a complete peace footing, if Italy has no intention of attacking that province. The Italian Government, in replying to this declaration, repeated that its armaments were purely defensive, and that Italy had no in-tention of taking the initiative in hostilities."

M. Thiers attacked the conduct of Prussia, and asked that the French Government should send an energetic veto to Berlin and Florence.

M. Jules Favre declared that he fully agreed with the remarks of M. Thiers, with the exception of that portion of his speech which referred to Italy.

M. Rouher in the name of the Government, requested that the debate should not be prolonged, and announced that a telegram had been received stating that Italy engaged not to attack Austria.

M. Olivier declined to speak after the declaration made by M. Rouher.

A rumor has been current in Paris that 10,000 French soldiers would shortly be sent to Rome.

The weekly returns of the Bank of France exhibit a further increase of over 9,000,000 francs in the cash on hand.

hand. The Paris Bourse on the 4th was very unsettled. Rentes further declined, closing at 64 267.

The Bank of Holland on the 3d raised its rate of dis-ount from 51 to 6 per cent.

BOMBAY, April 30.—Cotton depressed; shipments during the past fortoinght, 43,000 bales. Freights to Liverpool, 40/.
Piece goods lower. Exchange 2/14.
CALCUTTA, April, 27.—Exchange 2/2. Freights 45/. Indigo depressed.

Livearoot, May 5, 1866.

Two tugs left Queenstown to assist the steamship City washington, reported to have passed Capo Clear last scening. The political situation continues critical.

evening.

The political situation continues critical.

Prussia is said to have declined all negotiations on the definitive solution of the question of the Duchies, on the basis proposed by Austria.

Paris, May 5—p. m.

The Memorial Diplomatique denies that France has made energetic remonstrances at Vienna relative to Austrian armaments in Venetia, and says that the dispatch sent to Vienna on the subject was concled in most conteous terms, and solely requested confidential explanations respecting the object of the Austrian preparations. The Austrian Government replied, protesting it would maintain a strictly defensive attitude. France accepted these explanations, and the result was a mutual understanding according to which, should Italy attack Venetia independently of France. Austria will not secure for herself any of the eventual results of victory without the diplomatic intervention of France.

It is asserted that one object of Austria in menacing Prussia and Italy is to force England to assent to the Convention of a European Congress.

Lordon, May 6, 1866.

Prussia has declared to the Diot that the warlike preparations on her part are entirely defensive.

The Austrian reply to the last Prussian note was conciliatory, but she declines to disarm under present circumstances.

Warlike preparations in Venetia were being pushed for-

stances. Warlike preparations in Venetia were being pushed for-

ward with great energy.

A popular demonstration has taken place in Padua, where great excitement prevails.

It is rumored that Venetia will immediately be placed in a state of seige.

The Paris Bourse closed heavy last evening, at 64 265c. for the Paris. or the Rentes.

The Bank of Frankfort has raised its rate of discount to

six per cent.

Nothing has yet been heard of the steamship City of
Nothing has yet been heard of the steamship City of Washington since the Propontis left her. The disasteamer reported off Crookhaven was from Melbourne.

London Money Market.—The weekly returns of the Bank of England show a decrease in the bullion of £346,636, and a large increase in the bank notes in circulation.

On the 3d the Directors of the Bank advanced the rate of discount from 6 to 7 per cent. The Traces argues that the demand for money and the high rate of discount must be attributed to overtrading, and relief can only be looked for by a sudden contraction. The article says:

"How far this can now be effected without serious disaster, is a question that will doubtless be influenced by the effect which the news of the reaction here will have in such centered of our trade as New York and Bombsy. At the former city a severe pressure is likely to be felt, because, in addition to any inconvenience from the fall of cotton and the shortening of credits, they will have to provide for a considerable amount of United States bonds, understood lately to have been sent back."

United States bonds, understood lately to have been sent back."

Mesers. Guion & Co.'s monthly statement of British textile manufactures shipped from Liverpool to the United States shows a diminution for April of about 50 per cent compared with February and Marcil. and about 60 per cent compared with the four previous months. The Daily New's City article thinks this diminution indicates that the exports to America will now go been to the more natural snpply which existed before 1801, and says:

"Thus far the doubt which was attempted to be raised some months ago as to our receiving the equivalent in settlement from the United States, has had no foundation in fact; on the contrary a considerable amount of American securities has been returned lately as a remittance to settle the balance of trade, cles we should very probably have been obliged to make shipments of gold."

Consols on the 4th opened firmly but closed at a decline, 86; 4864.

There continued a full demand for discount at the advanced rate.

The foreign Exchanges were advancing, especially on Austria and Italy, the quotations on those countries being almost nominal. The foreign Exchanges were advancing especially on Austria and Hally, the quotations on those countries being almost nominal.

AMERICAN SECURITIES.—Baring's Circular says United States Five twenties have felt the pressure of sales under Continuous Circular and Circular Society. Authors assign as other circular critics at the circular countries and circular circular countries.

doing, Refined, 1/18/2/ per gallou, Spirit, 1/21/1; Crude, 2/140.

LONDON MARKET, —Baring Brothers & Co. report: Wheat quiet but steady. Flour 20/2/2/2/ \$\psi\$ bbl. Iron quiet; Rails and Bars \$6/15/; Scotch Pigs 70/. Sugars quiet but firm. Coffee active at full rates. Ten unaltered. Rice ensier for soft grain. Spirits Turpentine 50/ for American. Rosin 8/ for common American. Petroleum quiet at 2/2 for Refined. Linseed Cakes in fair demand at 2/1 for New York, in bils. Sperm Oil £232 £125. Cou £47 10/. Linseed Oil steady at 32/. Copper lower.

LATEST.

LIVERPOOI, Saturday evening, May 5, 1806.

COTTON—Sales to-day, 7,000 bales, including 1,500 bales to speculators and exporters. The market is quiet and unchanged. Middling Uplands about 13/4.

BREADSTUFFS—The market is quiet and steady.

PROVISIONS—The market is quiet and steady.

Consols close at 86/2/26/ for money.

ANERICAN NTO KS.—United States Five-twenties. 67/4 2673; Illinois Central Railroad, 75/2/75; Eric Railroad, 46/2/475.

FROM LONDON.

Talk About the Recent Contest in Parliament cal Mujority and Wealth of England on the Dissolve Parliament-What Would Have Killed in Committee-Progress of Liberaling Bill for the Bedtstribution of Sents-Want It Is To Be-Electoral Anomalies-

The Budget-Items.

he last, until Mr. Gladstone's budget gave us another ent of the division-and a close one involving the fate of and counter-cheered in the House of Commons. There politician, they might never have believed by the courage to act up to their inherently base proclivities. A word or so in addition to what I have written already of this "Right Honorable" (he is so by patent): He may be justly pronounced the most brilliant political failure of the age. A man of powerful toroid sympathics, with neither mental nor so by patent): He may be justly pronounced the most brilliant political failure of the age. A man of powerful brain and torpud sympathies, with neither mental nor spiritual capacity for belief or enthusiasm, he is yet wonderfully skillful, ingenious and inselent—therefore just the leader for duller apostates. If he had been made Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster instead of Mr. Göschen,grandson of a bookstall-keeper in Leipzie fair, the bill would have passed by more than a nominal majority. But enter the region of hypothesis you may come out anywhere, if Eve hadn't eaten the apple, we should all be in Paradise. "Events are in the saddle and ride mankind." On the whole, therefore, it is wiser to accept results and acknowledge that in one of the largest votes on record the majority in favor of admitting one-third of the working population of England to the franchise can be counted on the fingers of one hand. There is no use begging the question by saying that the division took place on a collateral issue, and not upon the question whether Reform was or was not needed. It is perfectly well known that the 33 renegades went over to the Tories, not from any excessive zeal for redistribution, but because they were at heart opposed to a reduction of the franchise. Remembering this, one is the less likely to form an incorrect estimate with regard to the future prospects of Reform.

Amid the "wind and talk" evolved by the decision, one curious calculation has turned up. Here it is, condensed to the briefest: According to the last census, the "Nees"—the anti-Reformers of the recent vote—represent populations numbering 13,102,047; the "Ayes"—the supporters of the Ministry and the bill—represent 15,077,570, which shows a difference in favor of the Liberals of 1,975,523—nearly 2,000,000. These of populations, not electors, mind. Of the latter, speaking by their representatives, 608,749 are in favor of Earl Grosvenor's amendment, and 735,353 against it, thus showing the great preponderance of 126,614 of the existing electo

dom. I think none but the most arcent, most uncompromising of Liberals wanted a dissolution. The Queen is
known to dislike it; parties and candidates are desirous of
shunning the expenses of a general election; the country
at large, regards one something in the light of a misance.
So, though it is next to a dead certainty that a new House
of Commons would be far more liberal than the present
Palmerstonized one "even in his ashes lives his wonted
fires"), the cost is counted as greater than the gain. A
resignation now would have been another matter, and one
that I have heard shrewdly advocated. In that case, the
Ministers would have thrown upon the Tory party the
alternative of trying to carry on the Government in a
House where they are in a decided minority, or of
appealing to the constituencies on a cry of No Reform;
and in either case, their speedy disastrous defeat
would be inevitable. No wiser tactics, at times,
than to give your enemy enough rope wherewith
to hang bimself. What said Carlyle, in his
Edinburgh speech, of Phocion's eloquent withdrawal:
"Take your own way and see what comes of it; let me out
altogether." However, the Liberals have accepted the
Government determination very amiably; nor do the
Tories (conscious of their own weakness) pretend to much
cavil. They rather assume an air of superior wisdom and
forgiveness, of triumphant complicancy, venting I-toldyou-so's and Don't-do-it-agains, in the spirit of Panch's big
picture. Generally they talk, as Lowe did, incollinately of
the dignity of the House, its importance, impeccability and
immaculateness—as if there was no such things as election
committees and we hadn't been surfeited, for the last
month or more, with their disclosures of bribery and corruption. There is no more popular parliamentary flapdoodle than that—the House never seems tired of it—just
as if it constituted the nation, and summed-up all that was
worth maintaining within the four seas of Britain. But to
return to the Liberals, they have great confidence in the
pidgmen

price FOUR CENTS.

The relativistic of east—of which mean breathers will be interested to the contract of the

thus leaving an estimated surplus of £1,330,000. He proposed to equalize the daty on wine in bottle and in bulk, which would cause a less of £25,000; abolish the duty on pepper, £112,000; reduce the mileage duty on omnibuses from id. to id. per mile, to take effect after the 2d July, £61,000; and reduce the duty on carriages drawn by horses, £16,000. He then tarned to the operation which he proposed with respect to the National Debt. He explained at some length his proposal with respect to the convert the £24,000,000 invested by the Trustees of Savings Banks with the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt into terminable annuities. There is, beside, a proposal for the reinvestment of surplus fands. By these operations the Chanceller of the Exchequer expects to reduce the National Debt by £29,500,000 in 1885. The cost will be about £200,000 a year, and this, tegether with the other reductions, would reduce the surplus to £28,500,000 a reduce the National Debt by £29,500,000 in 1885. The cost will be about £200,000 a year, and this, tegether with the other reductions, would reduce the surplus to £286,000.

It seems to give satisfaction to everybody; even the Tory papers accept it with a few stereotyped sneers about "recklessness" and "sensational finances." Everybody will be content with the addition of the duty on timber, and be glad to get French and Hungarian wines as cheap in bottles as they can be obtained in casks; the remission of the tax on pepper (which seemed to amuse the House a good deal) will be a real advantage to the poor in cheapening a wholesome condiment as well as preventing its admittance. But of course the great feature of the Budget is the proposition to begin paying off the National Debt. If Mr. Mill's speech suggested it that gentleman's client, Posterity, oright to be very much obliged to him.

The Jamaica inquiry terminating, two of the Commissioners have returned to England, and we may shortly expect that the result of their labors will be laid before Parliament in the sha thus leaving an estimated surplus of £1,330,000. He to equalize the duty on wine in bottle and in bulk, wi

persons will care to read. It is now pretty clearly ascer-tained that the total number of "rebels" snot or hung during the continuance of martial law was about 438; that 600 persons were flogged; and that no less than 1,000 houses of the peasantry, affording shelter to 4,000 souls,

were burned down.

I can add nothing to the centinental rumors of war which you will not find in the papers. The money market is in a chrotic state of panic in consequence. Otherwise, we are not much interested in the subject; still less excited. John Bull only wants "to keep out of the mose," that, all

War Prospects-Minister Rouher's Speech in the Corps Legislatif-Thiers's Address-Pasange of the Conscription Bill-The Military and Political Situation-Anecdote of Hugo -Deaths by Lightning-Montalembert-Ris-

PARIS. May 4, 1866. Prussia is armed, Austria is armed, Italy is armed. Each says the other armed first. Who lies? Who tells the ruth? Each insists that its arming is purely defensive, and argues this to the other, not so much with the idea of convincing the other as of persuading European opinion of the truth of the statement. Which one will fire first? Will any one dare to take that risk? May not an accidentally discharged volunteer's gun start these heaped up combustibles into general blaze of war? These question have been asked through the week, with what growing anxiety you can measure by the downward, sliding, tumbling scale of quotations at the Bourse. In that time the French three per cents have fallen 2] per cent; the Italian five per cents have fallen 12 per cent. Such diplomatic notes and other official writing as came to light in full, or as were adumbrated, amid a driving storm of printed telegrams and talked rumors, only darkened knowledge and made contuston more conformed. In

The moral of yesterday's proceedings in the Corps Legislatif is this: Government's declaration is approved, with insistance. (Which means that France—for here, at least, the Deputies were strictly representatives of their constituents—particularly does not want war; and don't, on the whole, consider that even some increase of territory Rhineward would pay for its cost, or balance disadvantages of a greatly-increased Prussian power on its advanced frontiers.] The nation says to its ruler, don't fight, nor let there be a fight, if you can help it—and we believe you can. [L. N. B. is not constitutionally bound to obey the voice of his B. is not constitutionally bound to obey the voice of his people, but he has sense enough to take into consideration such an expression of it, and to use it also as a base for his diplomatic action towards other powers.] But furthermore, says the nation, to help you keep the peace if you can to enable you, if you cannot, to strike in at the proper time and secure the desirable slice of territory "all for an idea," we patriotically grant the 100,000 conscripts for army and navy. [And that is another warning to Master Bismark, as other portions of yesterday's session of the Corps Legislatif are a warning to Italy. This, for instance, which I forgot to mention in its place: Just before the Conscription bill was put to vote, Minister Roader informed the House that since its opening Government had transmitted to him a telegram received from the Italian Government, solemnly assuring France and the world that Italy would not strike the first blow. This ennouncement was applauded to the echo by the House.]

world that Italy would not strike the first blow. This ennouncement was applauded to the eche by the House.]

The actual critical state of affairs presents in itself a strong argument in favor of accepting the proposition which Napoleon emitted several years ago of a European Congress. It is a confirmation of that prophetic argumentative passage of the paper in which he proposed it, the sum of which is, "The course of European history, dammed only by rotten old treaties and new temporary fillings-in of diplomatic sand-bags, drifts inevitably to war and deluge of bloodshed." There is rumor that Russia and England have shown readiness to join with France in exercising diplomatic compression on the three pugnacious powers; another rumor that they have intimated readiness to reconsider their sometime rejection of the Napoleonic exercising diplomatic compression on the three pagnacious powers; another rumor that they have intimated readiness to reconsider their sometime rejection of the Napoleonic idea of a Congress. The classic school of statesmen (so-called) are likely to hold with Thiers that the balance of power in Europe (so-called) is saveworthy at any cost. Prussia, with excellent scaports on the Baltic; Austria, with but one on the Adriatic; Italy, completed by Venetia, predestined Mistress of the Mediterranean, the first Napoleon's French lake—such changes would seriously combobulate (combobulate is not a dictionary word; I wish it were, or that I could recall any other as fit to the case) the balance. How, for example, shall Russia bear this Baltic growth of Prussia more indifferently than France bears its growth of power in Germany? And if France shall surely demand, by virtue of its pacific, loyally neutral policy of expectation, with 500,000 troops to keep it, expects compensating territorial guarantees Rhineward, will Russia not insist on a cut of Turkey, strengthening its old purpose and its power to cut and come again? And so England comes into the quarrel, and the old Eastern question sore, barely skinned over since the Crimean war, breaks out again.

And so, from consideration of the improbability of a war between Prussia and Austria, or Italy and Austria, or any one or two of the three, when once broke out, being erroumseribed within their frontiers; of the terrible proba-

And so, from consideration of the improbability of a war between Prussia and Austria, of the improbability of a war between Prussia and Austria, of the larly and Austria, or any one or two of the three, when once broke out, being circumseribed within their frontiers; of the terrible probabilities of a general war in Europe; of the certainty of grave financial derangement and economical losses even to nations that should take no active part in it; of the grains of common sense that exist even in the minds of able statesmen; of Napoleon's still unliquidated Mexican business—from consideration of these, among other things, your correspondent still ingeringly clings to his old opinion that there will be no war this year in Europe. But you in the American distance are really in better condition to judge than one is here,—where for the rest, I should add, that public opinion is quite contrary to mine. Meantime, as the fall in the public funds, paralleled by the decline of all other values quoted at the Bourse indicates, this state of solicitous suspense has already brought on some of the gravest evils of war, sadly reminding one of that jest of Young Tom, in Jacob Faithful, that "suspense be as bad as hanging."

Which gives me rope enough to change the subject, and slip in hero a far witter and wiser grave mot of Victor Hugo. An artist of Paris having lately finished an etching after Gericault's picture of the boad of a supplicet (and legally-murdered man), sent a proof to the author of Les Travaillers de la Mer, with a request that he would give an appropriate line to be engraved beneath it. Hugo replied: "Since you ask a line from me, inscribe beneath your beautiful engraving these closing words of my Claude Guenz,' This head of a man of the masses, enlighten it, educate it, moralize it—you will not need to cut it off."

From death by human apeing of "divine justice" to deaths by lightning one passess with a sense of relief. A trustworthy statistical paper about these last was lately read before the Academy of Scie